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# Warm Weather Speeds Up Spud Harvest

## **Agricultural Summary**

Statewide, fall temperatures were above normal, ranging from 71 to 87during the day and from 23 to 41 at night. Moisture for the state was scattered, with isolated showers falling in the northern and eastern areas. The precipitation that did fall ranged from 0.07 to 0.55 inches. For the week ending October 10, major agricultural activities included caring for livestock, fall soil preparation, planting winter wheat, and harvesting hay, apples, dry beans, onions, sugarbeets, and potatoes.

# Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Range and Pasture condition remained mostly fair to good during this past week. Cattle and sheep continue to be reported in good condition. The fall calving season has begun in some areas of the state, and ranchers are beginning to move cattle off of summer pastures.

**Crop Progress Table** 

Percentages	2004	2003	Avg.
Field Corn Harvested for Grain	6	19	15
Field Corn Harvested for Silage	94	95	90
Onions Harvested	93	98	89
Dry Beans Harvested	98	97	97
Alfalfa Hay 4 <sup>th</sup> Cutting	79	80	77

## **Field Crop Report**

Statewide, fall planting is well underway. Favorable harvest conditions allowed potato harvest to advance ahead of last year and the five-year average. Apple harvest is nearing completion in the south-western part of the state. Power County Extension Educators reported above normal temperatures ideal for finishing the fall harvest, and allowed for soil preparation. Teton County Extension Educators reported potato harvest being in full swing.

#### Soil Moisture and Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Topsoil moisture was reported to be 13% very short, 32% short, and 55% adequate. Statewide, Idaho farmers had an average of 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

### **Condition Table**

Percentages	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Irr. Water Supply	15	24	27	24	10
Range & Pasture	1	15	41	43	

**Crop Progress District Table** 

Crop	North			Southwest			South-Central			East			State		
	2004	2003	Avg	2004	2003	Avg	2004	2003	Avg	2004	2003	Avg	2004	2003	Avg
Winter Wheat															
Planted	48	76	69	79	78	59	81	87	83	85	85	79	68	81	72
Emerged	2	9	11	16	57	33	36	57	42	50	44	44	24	31	27
Potatoes															
Harvested	NA	NA	NA	97	91	90	78	80	67	82	77	69	82	79	70
Sugarbeets															
Harvested	NA	NA	NA	9	9	7	19	18	22	23	28	25	18	18	20
Alfalfa Hay 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting															
Harvested	NA	NA	NA	100	100	100	100	100	100	91	91	94	96	96	97

Avg (1998-2003); NA = Very Small Percentage of Acreage in District.

Weather Data For The Week Ending Sunday, October 10, 2004 1/

		Tempe	erature 2/		Grow	ing Degree	Days 4/	Precipitation (Inches)						
Station	High	Low	Ave.	Dept. 3/	40° 50° Base Base To Date Nor			Total	Dept 3/	Month of		rch 1		
**					Dase	To Date	Normal			October	To Date	Normal		
North	7.0	26			2072	2020	10.40	0.40	0.26	0.40	0.07	12.76		
Coeur D'Alene	73	36	55	2	3973	2030	1848	0.48	0.36	0.48	8.97	13.76		
Grangeville	74	36	53	3	3537	1648	1495	0.55	0.16	0.55	17.47	16.69		
Lewiston	82	41	60	4	5315	3177	2764	0.55	0.37	0.55	9.17	7.66		
Sand Point	71	33	52	4	3681	1810	1450	0.13	-0.25	0.13	15.71	15.49		
Southwest														
Boise	87	37	62	6	5340	3223	2645	0.00	-0.16	0.00	4.76	6.32		
Caldwell	86	39	61	6	5209	3089	2904	0.00	-0.13	0.00	1.90	5.56		
Emmett	86	38	61	5	4955	2874	2573	0.00	-0.15	0.00	3.96	6.42		
Mountain Home	84	39	60	5	5208	3140	2629	0.00	-0.13	0.00	3.32	4.89		
Parma	82	23	54	1	5056	2956	2463	0.20	0.07	0.20	3.73	5.72		
Weiser	82	40	61	7	5351	3236	2560	0.00	-0.11	0.00	3.16	5.56		
Southcentral														
Buhl 5/					4307	2285	2169	0.00	-0.13	0.00	2.07	5.28		
Burley	82	35	56	3	3967	2006	2137	0.00	-0.13	0.00	4.38	5.75		
Hill City	76	27	52	4	3081	1418	1259	0.00	-0.16	0.00	2.92	6.05		
Hagerman 5/					5076	2967	2723	0.00	-0.09	0.00	1.70	4.84		
Malta 5/	82	37			4159	2182	1865	0.00	-0.12	0.02	6.63	6.52		
Twin Falls	77	32	55	3	4207	2233	1878	0.00	-0.15	0.00	5.61	5.94		
East				_	,									
Aberdeen 5/	74	27			3374	1626	1608	0.00	-0.17	0.06	4.93	5.77		
Grace	76	27	52	3	3207	1482	1442	0.00	-0.30	0.13	9.83	10.42		
Idaho Falls	77	31	53	4	3448	1628	1677	0.08	-0.14	0.09	6.58	7.07		
Malad City	82	29	54	4	3960	2094	1846	0.00	-0.27	0.11	8.00	9.17		
Pocatello	81	31	55	4	3942	2029	1955	0.12	-0.09	0.11	5.87	7.50		
Rexburg	75	33	55	6	3461	1668	1562	0.12	-0.16	0.12	6.90	8.60		
Salmon 5/	73	32			3143	1519		0.00	-0.10	0.00	4.28			

<sup>1/</sup> Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data is quality controlled by the National Climate Center the accumulated growing degree days and precipitation values are updated. 2/-- indicate missing or incomplete data. 3/ Weekly departure from normal. 4/ Totals from March 1. Growing degree days are estimated from neighboring sites for stations with missing or incomplete data. 5/ Precipitation totals are only for days reports were received, no estimates were made for missing data.

Daily High/Low Four Inch Soil Temperatures

G:	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday		Sunday		Average <sup>1/</sup>	
Station	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Emmett	72	62	71	62	69	60	68	58	70	62	70	61	70	60	70	61
Parma	61	60	61	60	60	59	60	59	60	59			36	36	56	56
Sandpoint	62	51	60	51	60	51	56	53	59	50					59	51
Twin Falls	66	56	62	54	63	54	64	51	63	54	64	55	56	50	63	53

<sup>1/</sup> Averages are only for days reports were received. -- Missing or Incomplete Data.

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